COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS IN ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR

1. (Previously Presented) A method of accelerating the differentiation of undifferentiated mesenchymal cells to chondrocyte cells, said method comprising culturing undifferentiated mesenchymal cells in a differentiation inducing medium, and irradiating said undifferentiated mesenchymal cells with ultrasound to accelerate the differention of said undifferentiated mesenchymal cells to chondrocyte cells.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the ultrasound has a frequency of 20 kHz to 10 MHz, a burst width of 10 μ sec to 1 msec, a repetition rate of 5 Hz to 10 kHz, and an ultrasound intensity of 5-120 mW/cm^2.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the ultrasound has a frequency of 1.5 MHz, a burst width of 200 μ sec, a repetition rate of 1.0 kHz, and an ultrasound intensity of 5-120 mW/cm^2.

Claims 4-6 (Canceled).

7. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for manufacturing artificial cartilages comprising a culture vessel containing cultured undifferentiated mesenchymal cells, an ultrasound transducer for applying ultrasound to the vessel, a control means for controlling the ultrasound, and a holding water-tank for installing the ultrasound transducer and the culture vessel in the holding water-tank in such a state that they are in contact with each other.

8. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for manufacturing the artificial cartilage according to Claim 7, characterized in that the control means is a means for controlling the ultrasound transducer so that ultrasound pulse is output from it.

9. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for manufacturing the artificial cartilage according to Claim 8, characterized in that the ultrasound has a frequency of 20 kHz to 10 MHz, a burst width of 10 μ sec to 1 msec, a repetition rate of 5 Hz to 10 kHz, and an ultrasound intensity of 5-120 mW/cm^2.

Claims 10-12 (Canceled).